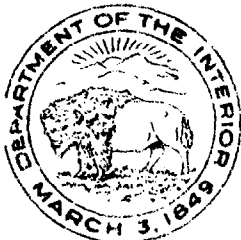


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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release MARCH 1, 1955

HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALES CONTINUE UPWARD TREND

Hunters and sport fishermen in the United States reached the record-breaking total of 32,654,199 individuals in the past fiscal year and they paid almost \$85,000,000 for fishing and hunting licenses and Federal duck stamps, the Fish and Wildlife Service reported to Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay today.

Fishing, as in past years, remained the most popular outdoor sport, with 18,580,813 men and women paying \$38,927,735 for all categories of State licenses, permits, and stamps in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1954, the Service report disclosed.

Hunters totaled 14,073,386 and they paid \$46,047,781 for State resident and nonresident licenses, permits, tags and stamps, including \$4,542,860 for Migratory Waterfowl Stamps.

In the preceding fiscal year, in the category of paid license holders, fishermen outnumbered hunters 17,867,922 to 13,997,155. Fees from fishing licenses in 1953 totaled \$35,602,903 as compared with \$45,044,572 (including \$4,593,256 for duck stamps) collected from hunters.

Director John L. Farley said the Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a new system of reporting hunting and fishing license statistics which is being used for the first time this year. In previous years the Service has reported the total number of all licenses purchased, including permits, special licenses, stamps, etc.

This total represented duplications, since a hunter might buy, in addition to his general license, a quail stamp and a deer stamp. Or a fisherman in some States might buy a special trout permit.

Total licenses issued in fiscal year 1954 were 35,640,347, Director Farley pointed out, but the number of paid license holders was only 32,654,199.

Apportionment of Federal aid funds to the States for fish and wildlife restoration programs is based upon the number of paid license holders and not upon the total of all licenses issued.

In the attached compilation of statistics, Service Director Farley explained, the data have been arranged in five columns. The first three columns cover, as nearly as can be determined, the number of paid license holders, consisting of residents, nonresidents, and the total for each State.

The fourth column presents an enumeration of all types of licenses issued by the States to sportsmen, such as general hunting and fishing licenses, big game,

and special types of issuances such as troupe stamps, woodcock permits, special area licenses, free licenses to the aged, veterans, etc., special gear permits (archers, fish houses, etc.), and others. The number of these special licenses is indicative of the growing trend toward more highly specialized and regulated hunting and fishing.

The fifth column gives the gross cost which sportsmen pay for the right to indulge in their favorite sport. The totals in the fifth column include fees for the general licenses, and for all special permits, tags, and stamps, except the Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Stamps which are issued by the Federal Government and not by the States.

The appended tabulations are listed alphabetically by States.

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STATE FISHING LICENSES STATISTICS FOR THE UNITED STATES

July 1, 1953 to June 30, 1954

STATE	PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS			TOTAL NO. OF ALL LICENSES ^{1/} ISSUED	TOTAL COST ^{2/} TO FISHERMEN FOR ALL LICENSES ISSUED
	RESIDENT	NON- RESIDENT	TOTAL		
Alabama	206,625	18,949	225,574	231,474	\$ 268,641
Arizona	90,006	42,818	132,824	132,824	359,527
Arkansas	264,873	131,909	396,782	396,782	744,524
California	1,240,604	15,400	-1,256,004-2	1,256,004	3,789,836
Colorado	300,800	104,657	405,457	405,457	831,978
Connecticut	103,313	4,237	107,550	107,550	374,698
Delaware	8,515	1,714	10,229	10,229	23,499
Florida	239,529	99,094	338,623	338,623	905,825
Georgia	400,928	6,513	407,441	416,034	270,336
Idaho	178,724	65,024	243,748	248,690	664,008
Illinois	768,544	20,199	-788,743-7	788,743	871,760
Indiana	554,232	36,584	-590,816-10	618,384	665,989
Iowa	388,941	15,127	404,068	404,068	579,049
Kansas	229,337	6,102	235,439	235,439	477,195
Kentucky	334,247	80,657	414,904	414,904	876,452
Louisiana	178,994	26,055	205,049	205,049	261,365
Maine	126,461	72,979	199,440	199,440	616,949
Maryland	96,005	20,983	116,988	116,988	211,949
Massachusetts	215,707	7,276	222,983	245,365	642,025
Michigan	852,788	307,137	-1,159,925-3	1,581,719	2,266,848
Minnesota	971,964	305,953	-1,277,917-1	1,337,311	3,093,691
Mississippi	134,970	73,170	208,140	208,140	306,668
Missouri	513,319	51,882	565,201	565,201	1,280,947
Montana	185,391	36,696	222,087	222,087	416,896
Nebraska	222,865	9,539	232,404	232,404	358,893
Nevada	28,397	26,831	55,228	60,469	199,859
New Hampshire	75,728	48,648	124,376	129,616	409,107
New Jersey	138,125	9,995	148,120	224,380	577,431
New Mexico	72,705	37,584	110,289	118,404	376,726
New York	774,314	42,712	-817,026-6	866,680	1,811,044
North Carolina	317,010	25,730	342,740	389,436	647,646
North Dakota	73,903	1,306	75,209	75,384	44,242
Ohio	837,746	47,508	-885,254-5	885,254	1,762,488
Oklahoma	354,597	54,177	408,774	408,774	868,002
Oregon	291,982	28,153	320,135	322,571	1,190,084
Pennsylvania	704,337	27,147	-731,484-7	731,484	1,764,772
Rhode Island	19,892	483	20,375	26,392	47,321
South Carolina	291,982	10,723	302,705	319,530	385,249
South Dakota	100,232	27,333	127,565	127,565	275,689
Tennessee	648,261	120,219	-768,480-8	815,456	781,040
Texas	417,379	6,393	423,772	424,337	714,272
Utah	133,733	7,295	141,028	148,939	425,728
Vermont	72,200	33,707	105,907	106,027	246,064
Virginia	351,194	8,542	359,736	425,542	583,524
Washington	464,166	20,352	484,518	485,537	1,429,265
West Virginia	187,421	7,537	194,958	221,359	380,073
Wisconsin	739,495	341,197	-1,080,692-4	1,082,076	2,215,221
Wyoming	121,291	62,815	184,106	189,909	633,340
TOTALS	15,923,772 16,023,772	2,557,041	18,580,813	19,504,030	\$38,927,735

1/ This includes general resident and non-resident fishing licenses, permits, tags, stamps, and such free licenses as distributed by some states. There were 347,070 free hunting and fishing licenses issued by 16 states.

2/ This is the gross cost to the fishermen for various types and categories of licenses issued by the respective states for the privilege of fishing for and/or possessing fishes.

STATE HUNTING LICENSE STATISTICS FOR THE UNITED STATES

July 1, 1953 to June 30, 1954

STATE	PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS			TOTAL NO. OF ALL LICENSES ^{1/} ISSUED	TOTAL COST ^{2/} TO HUNTERS FOR ALL LICENSES ISSUED
	RESIDENT	NON- RESIDENT	TOTAL		
Alabama	247,598	2,610	250,208	255,274	\$ 507,630
Arizona	94,767	2,744	97,511	158,332	537,921
Arkansas	214,446	7,621	222,067	222,067	450,894
California	613,140	1,050	- 614,190 - 5	1,237,907	2,451,261
Colorado	414,578	20,225	- 434,803 - 9	434,803	2,159,254
Connecticut	56,711	709	57,420	58,586	189,040
Delaware	26,098	501	26,599	26,599	66,486
Florida	114,611	2,074	116,685	132,528	625,934
Georgia	400,928	1,615	402,543	405,154	283,139
Idaho	177,659	4,359	182,018	352,571	732,475
Illinois	518,950	6,410	- 525,360 - 7	526,258	1,143,919
Indiana	427,593	2,063	429,656	452,205	467,849
Iowa	348,726	3,286	352,012	352,012	580,729
Kansas	176,727	2,097	178,824	238,528	418,451
Kentucky	243,873	8,270	252,143	252,143	819,106
Louisiana	248,496	2,992	251,488	251,488	516,772
Maine	145,970	25,061	171,031	171,031	819,808
Maryland	138,902	4,395	143,297	146,781	511,039
Massachusetts	118,010	3,316	121,326	143,708	375,726
Michigan	1,189,893	21,897	- 1,211,790 - 1	1,212,832	3,636,632
Minnesota	479,273	2,171	- 481,444 - 8	481,444	1,278,120
Mississippi	183,574	683	184,257	184,257	259,364
Missouri	285,462	1,549	287,011	287,011	913,167
Montana	185,391	1,764	187,155	329,461	803,194
Nebraska	199,505	7,623	207,128	207,128	396,331
Nevada	29,494	5,410	34,904	74,235	385,707
New Hampshire	66,678	18,823	85,501	90,705	506,446
New Jersey	165,302	2,073	167,375	169,318	545,786
New Mexico	71,040	2,477	73,517	74,145	414,032
New York	899,325	18,722	- 918,047 - 2	918,047	2,005,585
North Carolina	335,937	5,469	341,406	357,092	784,548
North Dakota	48,028	1,423	49,451	49,451	107,617
Ohio	638,145	2,568	- 640,713 - 4	670,746	1,464,975
Oklahoma	173,709	911	174,620	188,158	379,493
Oregon	249,984	1,431	251,415	486,532	1,364,324
Pennsylvania	859,137	30,664	- 889,801 - 3	1,004,892	3,460,261
Rhode Island	12,067	187	12,254	13,035	29,228
South Carolina	157,655	4,016	161,671	161,671	375,549
South Dakota	141,892	21,711	163,603	163,603	958,867
Tennessee	429,062	3,282	- 432,344 - 10	449,573	491,651
Texas	369,489	1,917	371,406	372,734	834,172
Utah	140,292	11,132	151,424	165,626	951,579
Vermont	71,620	10,295	81,915	82,035	292,594
Virginia	358,403	5,909	364,312	501,899	817,425
Washington	344,390	687	345,077	603,399	1,277,655
West Virginia	236,329	5,121	241,450	279,931	544,377
Wisconsin	590,062	4,424	- 594,486 - 6	594,851	1,462,426
Wyoming	107,940	30,788	138,728	144,531	1,106,383
TOTALS	13,746,861	326,525	14,073,386	16,136,317	\$41,504,921

^{1/} This includes general resident and non-resident hunting licenses, permits, tags, stamps and such free licenses as are distributed by some states. There were 347,070 free hunting and fishing licenses issued by 16 states.

^{2/} This is the gross cost to the hunter for various types and categories of licenses issued by the respective states for the privilege of hunting for and/or possessing game birds and mammals. The 2,271,430 Migratory Waterfowl Stamps (Duck Stamps) purchased at a cost of \$4,542,860 are not included in this table.